

Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5567

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STATE FOR CU/ARTS; LENINGRAD FOR P&C

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: OEXC, UR

SUBJ: EXCHANGES: CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS: ST. PAUL CHAMBER
ORCHESTRA

REF: STATE 255404

1. AT MEETING WITH EMBOFF TODAY, GOSKONTSERT OFFICIALS
STATED BOTH SPRING AND SUMMER ARE IMPOSSIBLE FOR CHAMBER
ORCHESTRA TOUR, BECAUSE CHAMBER SEASON HAS ENDED BY THEN.
THEY SUGGEST ALTERNATE DATE NOVEMBER 30 FOR A THREE-WEEK
RPT THREE-WEEK TOUR.

2. REASON FOR PROPOSED REDUCTION IN LENGTH OF TOUR IS
GOSK'S BELIEF A MAXIMUM OF THREE, AND AN AVERAGE OF ONLY
TWO, CONVERTS PER CITY WOULD DRAW A FULL AUDIENCE. CHAMBER
MUSIC, ACCORDING GOSK, APPEALS ONLY TO QUOTE VERY SPECIALIZED
AUDIENCES END QUOTE. THEY NOW PREPARED OFFER THREE-WEEK
TOUR, CONSISTING OF MAXIMUM THIRTEEN CONCERTS IN SIX CITIES.
WHEN EMBOFF RESPONDED THAT SUCH OFFER PROBABLY
UNACCEPTABLE TO DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY, GOSK ANSWERED THAT
IF RPT IT IT POSSIBLE ADD FOURTH WEEK TO TOUR, VISIT COULD
BE EXTENDED TO EIGHT CITIES. BELIEVE WE SHOULD INSIST
ON FOUR WEEK TOUR AND AT LEAST EIGHT CITIES.

3. THE DIMENSIONS OF THE HARPSICHORD WOULD REQUIRE TRUCK

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TRANSPORTATION, AND THUS GOSK "REJECTS" PROPOSAL THAT

GROUP BRING ITS OWN HARPSICHORD. DEPENDING ON ITINERARY, GOS REPS SAID ORCHESTRA COULD USE RUSSIAN HARPSICHORD WHEN AVAILABLE. FYI CENTRAL ASIAN CITIES PROPOSED BY EMBASSY DO NOT HAVE HARPSICHORDS, ALTHOUGH MOSCOW, LENINGRAD, LVOV AND NOVOSIBIRSK DO. END FYI.

4. ITINERARY TO INCLUDE SUCH CITIES AS ALMA-ATA, TASHKENT, NOVOSIBIRSK (AT EMBASSY REQUEST) AGREEABLE TO GOSK, BUT FINAL DETAILS ON ITINERARY TO BE ARRANGED AFTER ORCHESTRA'S CONCURRENCE WITH NEW TOUR DATE.

5. GOSK PREPARED ACCEPT ADVANCE GROUP IN MARCH.

6. RESCHEDULING CHAMBER ORCHESTRA FOR THE FALL BROUGHT UP QUESTION OF REMAINING TWO PAG'S FOR 1975, I.E., WHAT AND WHEN? IN RESPONSE TO EMBOFF'S QUESTION, GOSK SUGGESTED SEPTEMBER '75 FOR THEATER GROUP AND MAY OR JUNE '75 FOR ROCK GROUP. FY LATENESS OF EMBASSY PROPOSALS FOR PAG'S WAS BROUGHT UP AT THIS MEETING, AND AS REPORTED ELSEWHERE, IS USED BY GOSK AS CONVENIENT MEANS TO REJECT ITINERARY AND PROPERTIES REQUESTS OF GROUPS. END FYI.
STOESSEL

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